Author’s response to reviews

Title: Topical povidone iodine inhibits bacterial growth in the oral cavity of patients on mechanical ventilation: a randomized controlled study

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To Reviewer #1

In figure 3, there are including bacterial count graph and table. The figure legends are not informing each explanation. In the graph, the style are seems being warped out of shapes. I cannot recognize which graph has significant difference. Its needs detail explanations. In the same manner, the explanation of figure 4 are prefer more precise information in result sentence.

→ Figure 3 was confusing, so I deleted the table and put the p-values at the top of the graph. The figure of legend of Figs. 3 and 4 were revised.

To Reviewer #2

#methods

The sentence 'the data were analyzed by means of descriptive statistics and inferential statistics' should be moved to the statistical analyzes section

→ The sentence was moved to the statistical analyzes section.

#figure 3

The authors must choose the table or chart. If the option is for the table, pay attention to using median and interquartile range or mean and standard deviation. In my opinion, the most correct thing would be to express the median values because a non-parametric test was applied.

The table is clear and facilitates understanding. If the option is the chart, add the p values, if possible.

→ The table in the Figure 3 was deleted and p-value was described at the top of the graph.